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Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /099 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JPOPE:MCF
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:THALSTED
----------026006 170145Z /72
P 162229Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 011587

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JANUARY 16 PRESS ROUNDUP

1. HENRY BRADSHER OF WASHINGTON STAR SAID SOVIET AND AMERICAN NEGOTIATORS ARE WRITING DETAILED RULES IN NEW SALT TREATY FOR CHECKING THAT ACCORD IS FULLY OBSERVED. BRADSHER, QUOTING AMBASSADOR WARNKE, SAID U.S. INTENDS TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF ANY FUTURE SOVIET VIOLATION OF SALT TREATY. U.S. WOULD HAVE "EVERY RIGHT AND DUTY" TO PROTEST ABOUT ANY EVIDENCE OF SOVIET TREATY VIOLATION, WARNKE REPORTEDLY SAID. BRADSHER QUOTED WARNKE AS SAYING SALT NEGOTIATORS HAVE BEEN MAKING GOOD PROGRESS ON VERIFICATION RULES. ON OLD PROBLEMS SUCH AS SUSPECTED SOVIET CON-
CEALMENT OF DEVELOPMENT TESTS TO IMPROVE MISSILES, USSR IS "ACCEPTING SUFFICIENTLY GOOD BAN ON DELIBERATE CON-
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CEALMENT," WARNKE WAS REPORTED AS SAYING. BRADSHER SAID WARNKE POINTED OUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT STATE OF INTELLIGENCE ART WILL NOT PERMIT TO BE VERIFIED 100 PERCENT BUT U.S. WILL AGREE ONLY TO TREATY THAT DOES NOT LEAVE ANY AREAS OF MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OUTSIDE OF WHAT CAN BE VERIFIED, WARNKE STATED. WHEN SALT TWO IS CONCLUDED, WARNKE REPORTEDLY SAID, "IF WE HAVE ANY EVIDENCE OF

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VIOLATIONS, EVEN IF IT IS SOMETHING NOT OF MILITARY
SIGNIFICANCE, WE WILL HAVE EVERY RIGHT AND DUTY" TO MAKE
AN ISSUE OF IT WITH SOVIETS. BRADSHER REPORTED THAT
WARNKE SAID MANY PAST COMPLAINTS ABOUT SOVIET ADHERENCE
TO SALT ONE WERE RESULT OF BREVITY OF THAT TREATY.
TREATY WAS SIGNED HASTILY BY NIXON DURING HIS MAY, 1972
VISIT TO MOSCOW AFTER SOVIET NEGOTIATORS HAD STALLED
TO AVOID PINNING DOWN PRECISE DETAILS, BRADSHER NOTED.
STAR STAFF WRITER QUOTED WARNKE AS SAYING CURRENT DRAFT
OF SALT TWO TREATY, ON WHICH NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN UNDER
WAY FOR SOME FIVE YEARS, IS ABOUT 50 PAGES OF SINGLE AND
DOUBLE-SPACED TYPED PAGES. "THIS LINK SHOWS AN EFFORT TO
PIN DOWN EVERY PROVISION IN VERY PRECISE, UNAMBIGUOUS
LANGUAGE," BRADSHER SAID. HE QUOTED WARNKE AS SAYING
METHODS OF VERIFYING AN AGREEMENT LIMITING CRUISE
MISSILES HAVE NOT YET BEEN FOUND. BRADSHER COMMENTED THAT
CRUISE MISSILE RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN PUT "IN PROTOCOL TO
TREATY THAT WILL LAST JUST THREE YEARS -- LESS TIME THAN
IT WILL TAKE TO PUT CRUISE MISSILES INTO MILITARY
OPERATION....'ONE REASON FOR DEALING WITH CRUISE MISSILES
ON JUST SHORT-TERM BASIS IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS IS THAT WE
DON'T HAVE ANSWERS' ON VERIFICATION OF RULES LIMITING
THEM, WARNKE SAID. WARNKE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT IT
WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO WROK OUR REMAINING PROBLEMS AND
CONCLUDE TREATY BY APRIL OR MAY. BUT SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS
ARE KNOWN PRIVATELY TO BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT SUCH OPTIMISM.
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OFFICIALS ARE NOW TALKING ABOUT TREATIES NOT BEING READY
TO BE SENT TO SENATE FOR RATIFICATION BEFORE AUGUST OR
SEPTEMBER. SUCH LATE DATE IN CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION YEAR
MIGHT MEAN THAT EXPECTED DIFFICULT RATIFICATION FIGHT
WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY 1979."

2. SENATOR GARY HART, IN LETTER TO EDITOR OF WALL STREET
JOURNAL, DISPUTED JOURNAL'S DECEMBER 15 EDITORIAL
IMPLICATION THAT U.S. CONSIDERS ITEMS THAT ARE OF "HUGE
MOMENT TO EUROPEAN THEATER" TO BE OF ONLY "MARGINAL"
IMPORTANCE IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS. HART SAID HIS TWO VISITS
TO SALT NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA AS SENATE ADVISER HAVE
CONFIRMED THAT PROBELM OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND CONCERNS
OF NATO ALLIES HAVE BEEN CENTRAL TO DEVELOPMENT OF U.S.
NEGOTIATING STRATEGY. "THROUGHOUT SALT TALKS, U.S. HAS
PREVAILED IN INSISTING THAT NUCLEAR INVENTORIES OF NATO
COUNTRIES AND OUR OWN FORWARD-BASED TACTICAL AND THEATER
NUCLEAR FORCES BE KEPT OUTSIDE TREATY LIMITS. THIS IS
WIDELY VIEWED AS ONE OF FUNDAMENTAL TRIUMPHS OF U.S.
NEGOTIATING POSITION." HART SAID JOURNAL EDITORIAL, BY
OBSCURRING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EIGHT-YEAR TREATY AND
THREE-YEAR PROTOCOL, "IGNORES ANOTHER MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

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OF OUR NEGOTIATORS. THEY ARE NOT SAME. LIMITS ON THEATER-RELATED WEAPONS THAT SOVIETS PARTICULARLY FEAR, SUCH AS CRUISE MISSILES, WILL BE INCLUDED ONLY IN PROTOCOL. LIMITS ON SYSTEMS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO U.S.,

SUCH AS TOTAL MIRVED ICBM'S, WILL BE LOCKED INTO EIGHT-YEAR TERM OF TREATY. SALT PACKAGE HAS BEEN CAREFULLY CONCEIVED TO GIVE OUR NEGOTIATORS LEVERAGE IN TALKS FOR FOLLOW-ON AGREEMENT."

3. IN LETTER TO EDITOR IN JANUARY 16 WASHINGTON POST, VISITING BROOKINGS INSTITUTION SCHOLAR DAVID LINEBAUGH RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT LONG-RANGE CRUISE MISSILE. HE NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT RUSSIANS REPORTEDLY AGREED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SALT NEGOTIATIONS TO LONG-RANGE TESTING OF GROUND AND SEA-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES AS WELL AS AIR-LAUNCHED VERSION. "IS THIS NOT SURE SIGN THAT RUSSIANS WILL ALSO DEVELOP THIS WEAPON? OUR ONE-SIDED 'ADVANTAGE' WILL BE FLEETING." LINEBAUGH SAID WESTERN EUROPEANS ARE SAID TO WANT THIS WEAPON WHICH IS HIGHLY TOUTED FOR ITS "WAR-FIGHTING" CHARACTERISTICS. "WHILE CRUISE MISSILES MAY CONTRIBUTE TO DETERRENCE, NO STUDY OF ANALYSIS HAS EVER DEMONSTRATED THAT FIGHTING NUCLEAR WAR IN EUROPE COULD EVER BE TO WESTERN EUROPE'S ADVANTAGE." HE SAID. "PRESIDENT CARTER SAYS HE WANTS TO REDUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WHY THEN DOESN'T HE USE RESTRAINT ON CRUISE MISSILE TO BARGAIN FOR RUSSIAN ARMS RESTRAINT?"

4. CARYLE MURPHY OF WASHINGTON POST, IN DISPATCH FROM JOHANNESBURG, SAID SOUTH AFRICA IN NEXT FEW WEEKS WILL DECIDE ON SIZE OF COMMERCIAL URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT IT HAS PLANNED TO BUILD SINCE 1975. MURPHY SAID "SIZE OF PLANT AND SCHEDULE FOR ITS COMPLETION ARE COMPLEX DECISIONS THAT GOVERNMENT IS MAKING -- SOME REPORTS SAY, HAS MADE -- AGAINST BACKDROP OF DISPUTE WITH U.S. OVER FUTURE SUPPLIES OF ENRICHED URANIUM THAT ARE VITAL TO SOUTH AFRICA'S NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM." SHE QUOTED WELL-INFORMED SOURCES AS SAYING THAT U.S. HAS TOLD SOUTH AFRICA THAT SUPPLY AGREEMENT IS IN JEOPARDY IF SOUTH AFRICA PERSISTS IN REFUSING TO SIGN NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AND TO COMMIT ITSELF TO IAEA SAFEGUARDS. "SOUTH AFRICAN STEPS TO SPEED UP ITS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM IN ORDER TO BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT IN NUCLEAR FIELD, COUPLED WITH CONTINUED REFUSAL TO SIGN NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, COULD BE SEEN AS 'PROVOCATIVE' IN VIEW OF ONE AMERICAN OFFICIAL. ACCORDING TO U.S. SOURCES, CURRENT HIGH-LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS ARE AIMED AT SOME SORT OF 'ARRANGEMENT' TO SATISFY NUCLEAR UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERNS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. BUT FOR SOUTH AFRICANS, AN EARLY RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS DEPEND ON U.S. 'IT'S NOT IN OUR POWER SINCE WE HAVE NOT CREATE DIFFICULTIES,' SAYS BOTHA (J. S. F. BOTHA, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF ATOMIC MATTERS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY)." MURPHY SAID NEW COMMERCIAL ENRICHMENT PLANT IS INTENDED TO SERVE FOREIGN CUSTOMERS, ACCORDING TO BOTHA, MAKING SOUTH AFRICA

POTENTIAL COMPETITOR IN AN INTERNATIONAL MARKET NOW DOMINATED BY U.S. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE011587
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPOPE:MCF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780023-0967
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780158/aaaabxbj.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 298863e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3766736
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JANUARY 16 PRESS ROUNDUP
TAGS: PARM, SOPN
To: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/298863e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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